

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2075 without my signature.

Current law already allows domestic violence and child abuse cases to be joined under certain circumstances. This bill would list a number of crimes, such as battery and child endangerment, and explicitly state that they can be joined. While this bill is well intended, the language is flawed and actually narrows the ability of prosecutors to join other domestic violence and child abuse cases that are not specifically listed. Enactment of this measure could, in turn, reduce the ability of our justice system to appropriately charge individuals that have committed multiple crimes against their spouse and children. Instead of limiting discretion of local prosecutors we should instead seek to expand their ability to charge criminals in a manner that best protects our families and children.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger